



**Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, August 22, 2005

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**MEXICAN MAN INDICTED FOR SMUGGLING ALIENS
RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF AN 18- YEAR-OLD
MEXICAN FEMALE**

TUCSON, Ariz. -- A federal grand jury here returned a 12-count indictment on Wednesday, August 17, 2005 against Bolivar Cerbando Morales-Galvez, 34, of Mexico. According to the complaint filed in federal court, one of the members of the group, an 18-year-old female from Mexico, was left behind and subsequently died.

The indictment alleges that on or about July 17, 2005, Morales-Galvez conspired to bring in illegal aliens for profit, conspired to transport illegal aliens for profit, brought in illegal aliens for profit, aided and abetted the transportation of illegal aliens for profit, and aided and abetted the transportation of an illegal alien for profit resulting in the death of an illegal alien. The indictment also alleges that on or about March 24, 2005, Morales-Galvez brought in an illegal alien for profit and transported an illegal alien for profit.

A conviction for the offense resulting in death carries a maximum penalty of life in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for the remaining offenses carries a maximum penalty of ten years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. The charges involving bringing in illegal aliens for profit carry a mandatory minimum sentence of three years in prison. In determining an actual sentence, the federal district court judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by Border Patrol Agents and Tohono O'odham Nation Police Officers. The prosecution is being handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-1601-TUC-DCB (CRP)
RELEASE NUMBER: 2005-146